

Appl. No. 10/730,040

Amendment Dated November 15, 2005

Reply to Office Action of March 11, 2005 (three month response period.)

Listing Of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A load restraining strip for use in securing cargo within a transport container having corrugated interior side wall surfaces with alternating and vertically extending land and alternate valley surface areas, said land surface areas extending into the interior of said container, said load restraining strip comprising:

at least a first strip of reinforcement material forming at least a portion of said load restraining strip; and

a plurality of transverse adhesive strips connected to an outer portion[[,]] of said at least a first strip of reinforcement material, beginning at one end thereof, and said adhesive strips extending transversely across said one end of said first strip of reinforcement material and being laterally spaced a distance to correspond to the lateral spacing of said land surface areas of one of the interior side wall surfaces of the transport container such that said load restraining strip may be operably connected to the side wall surface of the transport container by adhering said plurality of transverse adhesive strips to corresponding ones of said land surface areas of the interior side wall surface of the transport container.

Claim 2 (previously presented): A load restraining strip for use in securing cargo within a transport container as defined in claim 1 and further comprising:

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a plurality of release paper strips extending coextensively with and releasably adhered to said plurality of transverse adhesive strips, wherein said release paper strips may be removed from said plurality of transverse adhesive strips on site and said load restraining strip releasably affixed to the land surface areas of the transport container such that said load restraining strip may be used as a flexible securement element to secure cargo within the transport container.

Claim 3 (previously presented): A load restraining strip for use in securing cargo within a transport container as defined in claim 1 and further comprising:

a second strip of reinforcement material;

a first adhesive layer coextensively extending along, coating and bonding said first strip of reinforcement material to said second strip of reinforcement material to form the load restraining strip; and

said plurality of transverse adhesive strips being applied to an outer surface, at one end thereof, of said first and second strips of reinforcement material.

Claim 4 (withdrawn): A load restraining strip for use in securing cargo within a transport container as defined in claim 3 wherein:

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said first strip of reinforcement material comprises a cross-weave reinforcement material composed of,

substantially parallel longitudinal strands extending along the length of said load restraining strip, and

crossing strands interwoven with said substantially parallel longitudinal strands to produce said cross-weave layer of reinforcement material.

Claim 5 (withdrawn): A load restraining strip for use in securing cargo within a transport container as defined in claim 3 wherein:

said first strip of reinforcement material comprises generally parallel strands of reinforcement material.

Claim 6 (original): A load restraining strip for use in securing cargo within a transport container as defined in claim 3 wherein:

said first strip of reinforcement material comprises a monolithic strip of high strength material.

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Claim 7 (withdrawn): A load restraining strip for use in securing cargo within an intermodal transport container having corrugated side wall surfaces with land and alternate valley surface areas, said load restraint strip comprising:

a first layer of reinforcement material having a first side and a second side and being composed of,

substantially parallel longitudinal strands extending along the length of said restraining strip, and

crossing strands interwoven with said substantially parallel longitudinal strands to produce said cross-weave layer of reinforcement material;

a first adhesive layer having a first side and a second side and coextensively extending along, coating and bonding to a second side of said cross-weave material;

a second, parallel strand layer of reinforcement material having a first side and a second side, wherein said second surface of said first adhesive layer is bonded to said first surface of said second, parallel strand layer of reinforcement material;

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a second layer of adhesive comprising a plurality of parallel transversely extending adhesive strips each having a first side and a second side and partially extending along and coating a portion of said second side of said second layer of reinforcement strands and being laterally spaced to correspond to the land areas of the corrugated side wall of the intermodal container; and

release paper strips extending coextensively with and releasably adhered to the plurality of transverse adhesive strips of said second layer of adhesive, wherein said release paper strips may be removed from said plurality of transverse adhesive strips on site and said load restraining strip releasably affixed to only the land surfaces of an intermodal transport container such that said load restraining strip may be used as a flexible securement element to secure cargo within a transport container without engaging the valley portions of the side wall surfaces of the intermodal container.

Claim 8 (withdrawn): A load restraining strip for use in securing cargo within an intermodal transport container having corrugated side wall surfaces with land and alternate valley surface areas as defined in claim 7 wherein:

said plurality of transversely extending strips are each approximately seven inches in width.

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Claim 9 (withdrawn): A load restraining strip for use in securing cargo within an intermodal transport container having corrugated side wall surfaces with land and alternate valley surface areas as defined in claim 7 wherein:

said plurality of transversely extending adhesive strips comprise three separate strips.

Claim 10 (withdrawn): A load restraining strip for use in securing cargo within an intermodal transport container having corrugated side wall surfaces with land and alternate valley surface areas as defined in claim 7 wherein:

said plurality of transversely extending adhesive strips comprise four separate strips.

Claim 11 (currently amended): A load restraining strip for use in securing cargo within an intermodal transport container having corrugated interior side wall surfaces with alternating and vertically extending land and alternate valley surface areas, said land surface areas extending into the interior of said container, said load restraint restraining strip comprising:

a first monolithic layer of material and having a first side and a second side and being composed of a first monolithic sheet of flexible material;

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a first adhesive layer having a first side and a second side and coextensively extending along, coating and bonding to a second side of said first monolithic layer of material;

a second monolithic layer of material and having a first side and a second side and being composed of a second monolithic sheet of flexible material, wherein said second surface of said first adhesive layer is bonded to said first surface of said second, monolithic layer of material;

a second layer of adhesive comprising a plurality of parallel transversely extending adhesive strips each having a first side and a second side and partially extending along and coating a portion of said second side of said second layer of monolithic material and being laterally spaced to correspond to a lateral spacing of the land surface areas of the corrugated interior side wall of the intermodal container; and

release paper strips extending coextensively with and releasably adhered to the plurality of transverse adhesive strips of said second layer of adhesive, wherein said release paper strips may be removed from said plurality of transverse adhesive strips on site and said load restraining strip releasably affixed to only the land surfaces of an intermodal transport container such that said load restraining

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strip may be used as a flexible securement element to secure cargo within a transport container without engaging the valley portions of the side wall surfaces of the intermodal container.

Claim 12 (currently amended): A load restraining strip for use in securing cargo within an intermodal transport container having corrugated internal side wall surfaces with alternating and vertically extending land and alternate valley surface areas as defined in claim 10 wherein:

said first and second monolithic layers are each selected from the group of materials consisting of polypropylene, polyethleneterephthalate, polyethleneterephthalate glycol, polyvinyl chloride, vinyl chloride monomer and polyethylene cross laminate.

Claim 13 (currently amended): A load restraining strip for use in securing cargo within an intermodal transport container having corrugated internal side wall surfaces with alternating and vertically extending land and alternate valley surface areas as defined in claim 10 wherein:

the thickness of said first monolithic layer of material is less than the thickness of said second monolithic layer of material being operable to be adhered to the lands of the side wall surfaces of the intermodal container.

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Claim 14 (withdrawn): A method for securing cargo within a transport container having corrugated side wall surfaces with lands and alternate valleys, said method of securing comprising the steps of:

providing a first and second strip of load restraining material having an adhesive material at one of the ends of each of said strips of load restraining material;

attaching each of said load restraining strips to an opposing side wall of said transport container by applying and adhering the adhesive portion of said first and second strip of load restraining material only to land surfaces of the interior wall of the transport container; and

wrapping the free ends of the first and second strips around a load within the transport container; and

securing the free ends of the first and second strips together to restrain the load within the transport container.

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Claim 15 (withdrawn): A method for securing cargo within a transport container having corrugated side wall surfaces with lands and alternate valleys as defined in claim 13 wherein said step of attaching comprises:

applying a continuous surface of adhesive coating at one end of said first and second load restraining strips only to the land surfaces of said corrugated side wall surfaces and without allowing the adhesive component to contact the valley portions of said side wall surfaces.

Claim 16 (withdrawn): A method for securing cargo within a transport container having corrugated side wall surfaces with lands and alternate valleys as defined in claim 13 wherein said step of attaching comprises:

applying a transverse strip of adhesive coating applied at one of the ends of said first and second load restraining strips only to the land surfaces of said corrugated side wall surfaces wherein the portion of the load restraining strips between adjacent transverse strips spans a valley of the side wall without touching the valley surface of the transport container.

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Claim 17 (withdrawn): A method for securing cargo within a transport container having corrugated side wall surfaces with lands and alternate valleys as defined in claim 15 wherein said step of attaching comprises:

applying a transverse strip of adhesive coating of approximately seven inches in width to the land surface of the side wall of said transport container.

Claim 18 (withdrawn): A method for securing cargo within an intermodal container having corrugated side wall surfaces with lands and alternate valleys, said method of securing comprising the steps of:

providing a first strip of load restraining material having an adhesive material applied at one of the ends of said first strip of load restraining material;

providing a second strip of load restraining material having an adhesive material applied at one of the ends of said second strip of load restraining material;

attaching one of said first and second strips of load restraining material to an opposing side wall of said intermodal container by applying and adhering the adhesive portion of said first and second strip of load restraining material only to land surfaces of the interior wall of the intermodal container; and

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wrapping the free ends of the first and second strips around a load within the transport container; and

securing the free ends of the first and second strips together to restrain the load within the intermodal container.

Claim 19 (withdrawn): A method for securing cargo within an intermodal container having corrugated side wall surfaces with lands and alternate valleys as defined in claim 17 wherein said step of attaching comprises:

applying a continuous surface of adhesive coating at one end of said first and second load restraining strips only to the land surfaces of said corrugated side wall surfaces and without allowing the adhesive component to contact the valley portions of said side wall surfaces.

Claim 20 (withdrawn): A method for securing cargo within an intermodal container having corrugated side wall surfaces with lands and alternate valleys as defined in claim 18 wherein said step of attaching comprises:

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applying a continuous surface of adhesive coating at one end of said first and second load restraining strips to at least three successive adjacent land surfaces of the side wall of the intermodal container.

Claim 21 (withdrawn): A method for securing cargo within an intermodal container having corrugated side wall surfaces with lands and alternate valleys as defined in claim 18 wherein said step of attaching comprises:

applying a continuous surface of adhesive coating at one end of said first and second load restraining strips to at least four successive adjacent land surfaces of the side wall of the intermodal container.

Claim 22 (withdrawn): A method for securing cargo within an intermodal container having corrugated side wall surfaces with lands and alternate valleys as defined in claim 17 wherein said step of attaching comprises:

applying a transverse strip of adhesive coating positioned at one of the ends of said first and second load restraining strips only to the land surfaces of said side wall surfaces of the intermodal container wherein the portion of the load restraining strips between adjacent transverse strips spans a valley of the side wall without touching the valley surface of the intermodal container.

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Claim 23 (withdrawn): A method for securing cargo within an intermodal container having corrugated side wall surfaces with lands and alternate valleys as defined in claim 21 wherein said step of attaching comprises:

applying a transverse strip of adhesive coating of approximately seven inches in width to the land surfaces of the side wall of said transport container